



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Week Ending: July 7, 2013

Number: 18

Released: July 8, 2013

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR July 7, 2013

The week started off wet for the Commonwealth, with some areas reported up to 8 inches of rain. Minor flooding was report; crops planted in low lying fields suffered the most and were being evaluated if replanting was cost effective. By Thursday, clear weather prevailed for the rest of the week. The break from the wet weather was welcomed as farmers were able to make much needed progress on the wheat harvest and double crop soybean plantings. Days suitable for field work were 3.5. The vegetable crop was in full swing with sweet corn making an appearance. The apple and peach harvest was just beginning. Other farming activities for the week included weaning the fall calves, applying herbicides to soybeans, bush hogging, and making equipment repairs.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 7, 2013	1	1	65	33
June 30, 2013	1	2	68	29
June 23, 2013	0	3	68	29
June 16, 2013	1	1	64	34
June 9, 2013	0	1	57	42

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 7, 2013	0	5	68	27
June 30, 2013	0	2	78	20
June 23, 2013	0	3	75	22
June 16, 2013	0	1	71	28
June 9, 2013	0	3	74	23

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	1	12	64	23
Livestock	1	1	9	58	31
Hay, Other	1	7	20	56	16
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	17	52	29
Corn	1	3	12	56	28
Soybeans	2	4	20	57	17
Oats	0	0	4	86	10
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	4	16	58	22
Tobacco, Burley	1	1	28	57	13
Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured	0	1	9	86	4
Peanuts	4	6	25	65	0
Cotton	5	13	23	53	6
Apples, All	0	0	14	84	2
Peaches	0	0	17	80	3
Grapes	0	5	7	86	2
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	5	93	2

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	49	32	53	49
Corn Dough	3	na	5	4
Winter Wheat Harvested	81	63	99	92
Soybean Planted	83	77	97	93
Soybean Emerged	77	67	88	82
Soybean Blooming	3	na	1	3
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	100	91	100	100
Cotton Squaring	60	56	64	58
Cotton Setting Bolls	0	0	7	8
Peanuts Pegged	21	6	38	37
Apples, Summer Harvested	1	na	15	9
Peaches Harvested	10	na	17	8
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	62	26	71	40

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 2013

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to July 6	Mar. 1 to July 6 Norm	Last Week	Since June. 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	83	69	87	65	76	2	1730	1647	2.66	8.47	3.85	28.91	6.33
Norfolk	88	74	92	72	81	3	1931	1803	1.96	4.57	-.09	21.99	-1.15
Richmond	88	73	91	72	81	4	1950	1810	.99	7.14	2.82	26.03	3.98
Roanoke	82	69	86	67	76	1	1740	na	6.27	12.68	8.27	33.22	10.78
Wash/Dulles	87	72	92	68	79	5	1685	na	.72	5.37	.58	19.36	-2.15

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

WESTERN

HIGHLAND (Paxton Grant)

Daily precipitation during the week of July 1 has delayed hay crop production.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

As far as unusual situations, the ground water level has not been this wet in the month of June for a number of years. That's good news. It can dry up very quickly. Sunday night through Wednesday, there were showers each day, some more than once a day. Rainfall varied from 2 to 4 inches of rain during that time period. Thursday - Sunday the sun came out, hot and humid, but was a welcome period for drying the wheat crop still left to harvest. Farmers are still trying to get in double crop soybeans since there is sufficient moisture in the ground. Tobacco is doing fair, but the farmers are having a hard time with grass control due to all the rain. Overall crops are looking good - hope the trend continues.

BUCKINGHAM

While most producers are thankful for bountiful rains providing much needed water for upland corn and soybeans; replanting for low ground crops has been costly (i.e. corn), which has now forced producers to consider planting an alternative crop after several failed plantings due to wet conditions. Wheat is down due to the wet and windy conditions in some areas resulting in lower yields. Wet conditions are delaying final soybean and grain sorghum plantings and producers are late in reporting. Forage producers are facing the dilemma of harvesting first cutting rank hay in between threatening showers and second cutting.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Sunday pm through Wednesday pm, several showers each day. Farmers continue to have wheat to harvest and plan to double crop with soybeans when conditions are dryer. Thursday - Sunday, was sunny, hot and humid.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rainfall during the first part of the week kept topsoil moisture in good shape for the most part, but amounts varied considerably from around 1 inch to over 3 inches reported. Farmers got back in the field late in the week and wheat harvest is just about complete. Farmers were also busy planting double crop soybeans.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Wet conditions have slowed/halted wheat harvest and soybean planting. Both continued at the end of week. Test weights are going down with each rain event, but yields are still good. Soybeans take no time to germinate and emerge. Corn is loving the weather, but there are places that have drowned for the second time this season. Vegetables are doing well also. Haymaking is stalled in definitely right now as folks are concentrating on getting beans in. Weather has not been the best for haymaking this season. Sweet corn is finally making an appearance but is a little slow due to wet and cool conditions earlier in season. Activities include wheat harvest, soybean planting, post emerge herbicides on beans, bush hogging, clean up, equipment repair, vegetable planting and harvest.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

The week's weather stopped cropping and hay efforts altogether, and gave farmers a rest after weaning most of the fall calf crop. First cutting hay has been extremely difficult to get made, and this week yielded no help. Each day had some rain with most of the county seeing at least 8 inches. Minor stream flooding was frequent and low lying crop areas were under water most of the week. Crops on upland, well-drained sites are looking very promising. All farmers locally could benefit from a few days of dry weather.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

Most farmers had the ground dry out enough to make good progress harvesting wheat and planting soybeans. Others need one more week of good weather to finish up those tasks

SOUTHERN

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Everything was about the same as last week although we did get a little larger gap between rains this time. The producers had a chance to get a little more wheat in, as well as get up some of that hay that's been laying on the ground for quite a while. Things are doing well and growing, although I am concerned for disease pressure due to this weather.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Daily rains are keeping folks from finishing harvest of small grains and hay. Some drowning spots are showing up in fields due to standing water. Double crop soybean planted has slowed as well. Powdery and downy mildew are showing up on cucurbit crops. Fruit trees by home owners are showing quite a bit of disease this year.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Combines went back to the wheat fields over the weekend where fields were dry enough. Some soybean planting took place. Producers are evaluating the economics of planting late soybeans since the final planting date for crop insurance has passed.

SOUTHAMPTON

More rain, more pain.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Rain and wet field conditions still around putting a stop to wheat harvest and planting of soybean. Corn crop will be a great one. Send some dry days.